

20th century wolf presents-- AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON

WE LIED about who's presenting the pic.
It's really Lycanthrope Films Ltd. (Ltd just possibly stands for Lycanthropic terror dreams.)

But we tell you no lie when we say we are expecting Great Things from this film. A picture Henry Hull would have applauded. A movie that Larry Talbot would have stayed home to watch on TV. A motion picture for which Maria Ouspenskaya would have learned English.

Why?

Because it's JOHN LANDIS' dream movie. The fantasy film he's faunched to make for 11 years.

He wrote it, he directed it.

And he's "one of us". It would be incorrect to say he's a graduate of FAMOUS MONSTERS because he's *never graduated!* He still reads it. And writes to the editor.

He discovered Rick Baker, Monster Maker.

Cast Forry Ackerman as the poor man's Buster Keaton (the great Frozen Face) and made

him a Cameo Star in SCHLOCK (later rereleased as THE BANANA MONSTER) and put him in the jury box in KENTUCKY FRIED MOVIE.

After 4 films which have been called outrageously funny, he has now directed his own screenplay, which has been called stylish, witty...and, ultimately, an absolutely terrifying tale". It's the latter part we like to hear best.

An absolutely terrifying tale.

here-&-now horror

Much as we appreciate horror tales of Transylvania taking place in the 19th century; murders in the 1800s in the Rue Morgue of Paris; Frankenstein's monster molesting the villagers over a hundred years ago; still one must admit that Fritz Leiber hit on something when he came up with "Smoke Ghost" in *Unknown* and demonstrated that demonic doings in a modern metropolis can be terribly scary too. It is this principle that John Landis applies in AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON. "Much of the force of my picture's



No it's not Cousin Eerie or Uncle Furry, it's one of the hideous demons devised by Master Monster Maker Rick Baker for a nightmare sequence in **AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON**.



The incredible Growing Man! Dave observes in petrified horror how his hand is elongating into a feral claw and turning him into the Incredible Growing Man!



Jenny Agutter keeps a firm grip on one of the genuine timber wolves featured briefly in the film.

horror derives from its modern, mundane setting," he tells us. "My werewolf does not prowl the night thru desolate graveyards & ruined castles, baying at the full moon. My lycanthrope lopes thru the foggy lanes of presentday London."

We've been in presentday London and it's a pretty scary place to begin with. The punk rockers. The hotel prices. The funny way people talk English there.

Coo! Gor blimey!

baker's monsterpiece

You thought the transformation in *THE HOWLING* was something? Even something else? Rick Baker echoes Al Jolson with "You ain't seen nuthin' yet!" as he declares, "I've been working on the project in secrecy for a long time and have devised a unique new method that goes beyond Mamoulian's Jekyll-Hyde transformation or any metamorphosis you've ever seen on the screen before. If this doesn't make your hair stand on end, you're bald!"

a peek at the plot

David Kessler (David Naughton) & Jack Goodman (Griffin Dunne) are 2 young American college boys on a 3-month holiday in Europe. First stop, Northern England; later, Rome, Naples, Venice, the ruins of Pompeii.

But it is not to be that way. Not quite.

One night... Walking together along a lonely road thru desolate English moors palely lit by the moon; cold, weary from the day's activities, eager for the warmth & comfort of an inn; raindrops start fallin' on their heads and their good-natured banter dries up as they hurry on, seeking shelter, wishing they were in warm beds.

Thru the pitter-patter of the pelting rain comes an unfamiliar sound.

Weird.

Menacing.

Unnatural...

blackout

3 weeks later David wakes up in a London hospital!

What happened?

What has happened for 21 days in between?

The first shocker is:

Jack is dead!

"His body was torn to bits, like he was attacked by some ferocious animal. But the assailant was caught—he was an escaped lunatic. Madmen often have the strength of a wild animal, you know. He was shot by pursuers and found naked on the moors."

"And Jack?"

"His body has been flown back to the States for burial. You're lucky to have survived."

Lucky?

Perhaps not.



A wolfman goes berserk and attacks Dave's family in a dream that seems all too hideously real to him while it's happening. Rick Baker's amazing makeup adds to the reality.

Tho David begins to gradually recover from the unnerving ordeal, he suspects--he *knows*--something is terribly wrong. Alex Price (Jenny Agutter), a beautiful young nurse, sometimes helps him forget his vague, unnamable fears for a short time but some terrible truth seems always to be lurking just beneath the surface, struggling to rise from his subconscious.

Then in a dramatic confrontation he learns the dread secret from the last person on Earth he ever expected to see again--

His friend Jack!

His *dead* friend Jack!

the cast aghast

David Naughton has been previously seen in MIDNIGHT MADNESS.

You'll remember Jenny Agutter, of course, from LOGAN'S RUN and, if you're one of our older readers, from the strange film EQUUS. Jenny has been acting since she was 11 years old and is credited with "an enchanting performance in the children's classic THE RAILWAY CHILDREN."

Griffin Dunne will probably be seen in THE WALL before WEREWOLF is released.

John Woodvine, who plays the doctor, appeared in THE DEVILS.



His face slashed open by a savage attack, Griffin Dunne becomes a rotting corpse thru the magic of makeup.



The young Jack Pierce (Rick Baker) takes us behind the scene and shows us how he puts the final touches on Griffin Dunne's monstrous transformation.

Brian Glover, who plays the enigmatic "Chess Player", has been seen in the supernatural film **ABSOLUTION**.

The "Darts Player", David Schofield, originated the role of "The Elephant Man" on the stage when the play was produced in London in 1977!

The Director of Photography, Bob Paynther, includes in his credits **SUPERMAN 2 & SATURN 3!**

Award-winning Art Director Les Dilley received an Oscar for his work on **STAR WARS** and was a nominee for **ALIEN**. He also worked on **SUPERMAN 1 & THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK**.

RICK BAKER. His name is synonymous with **THE EXORCIST**, **STAR WARS**, **THE FURY**, **THE HOWLING**...and on & on...nothing but the best. In a class with Harryhausen, Dick Smith, Bill Tuttle—one of those modest, unassuming geniuses whose wonder work contributes so much to our enjoyment of imagination movies.

last word from lycanthropia

A final word from **JOHN LANDIS**, the film's writer & director:

"Our werewolf is not the conventional 2-legged man.

"Not Hairy Face, son of Harry O.

"He's a 4-footed beast!

"From hell!

"When our actor changes into the werewolf, it will actually happen on the screen. No optical effects at all. 50 years ago Rouben Mamoulian masterminded the classic transformation of Dr. Jekyll into Mr. Hyde. 50 years from now we think they'll be talking about our quantum jump in transmutation!"

We're sure they will, John. If they can pronounce it!

You have the editor slaving at the jowls to see your **AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON**. If you want to make a sequel, **AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN HORROR-WEIRD**, I'm available without makeup!

And I work for scale.

Just toss me an old used alligator skin & I'm in. All together now, students:

London Beast is falling down,

Falling down,

Falling down.

London Beast is falling down.

MY SCARE, LADY!